

EXHIBIT 4
DATE 2-17-09
HB 434



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U.S. Crossbow Hunting Regulations

Below is a summary of crossbow hunting regulations in the United States. Although we believe this information is accurate and current, this page is intended as a quick reference, and as such there may be details about regulations in your state that are not mentioned here (e.g. are scopes legal? can I use a crank? etc.). Regulations can and do change frequently from state to state. Please contact your state agency or visit the DNR links below to verify all the regulations you must follow. This summary page SHOULD NOT be considered official legal advice and it may contain errors or omissions for which Hunter's Friend LLC will not be held responsible.

Alabama

Crossbows legal for all persons during the entire deer hunting season.
www.outdooralabama.com
334-242-3469

Alaska

Crossbows are illegal in bow-only areas, but can be used where guns and bows are legal weapons. No provision for handicapped hunters.
www.adfg.state.ak.us
907-267-2347

Arizona

Crossbows legal for handicapped hunters on a very restrictive permit basis, or for anyone during general firearms seasons.
www.azgfd.com
602-942-3000

Arkansas

Crossbows legal during archery seasons; must have minimum draw weight of 125 pounds and mechanical safety.
www.affc.state.ar.us/
501-223-6300

California

Crossbows legal for all hunters during gun seasons. Also, the California Game Commission voted on April 22, 2004 to adopt the following language to their regulations: "Any person with a physical disability which prevents him/her from being able to draw and hold a bow in a firing position, may use a crossbow or device which holds a string and arrow in the firing position to assist in the taking of birds and mammals under the conditions of an archery tag, archery season, or general session. Under these conditions, archers must provide to the Department and retain in his/her immediate possession while taking or attempting to take big game written verification of the disability, including: the person's name and signature, address, date of birth, driver's license or DMV number, physician's name and signature, physician's license number and address and a description of the disability."
www.dfg.ca.gov
916-653-7203

Colorado

Crossbows legal for all hunters during gun seasons and for handicapped hunters during archery season.
www.dnr.state.co.us
303-297-1192

Connecticut

Crossbows legal only for handicapped hunters by permit.

www.dep.state.ct.us

860-424-3011

Delaware

Crossbows legal Monday through Saturday of November shotgun season and during any gun season in December or January.

www.dnrec.state.de.us

302-739-5297

Florida

Crossbows are now legal in the Central zone (October 20-24, 2008), South zone (October 6-10, 2008), and in the Northwest Zone, the crossbow season will be seven days long and will open the Monday following Thanksgiving (December 1-7, 2008). Click on the Florida link below for additional crossbow information. Crossbows also legal for handicapped hunters by permit.

www.floridaconservation.org/

850-488-8573

Georgia

Crossbows legal in all seasons starting 2003.

www.gohuntgeorgia.com

770-918-6416

Hawaii

Crossbows legal by special disabled permit only.

www.hawaii.gov/dlnr

808-973-9787

Idaho

During an any-weapon hunting season you can hunt with a crossbow without any other permit besides your hunting license and proper tag. Crossbows also legal for handicapped persons by permit-to hunt with a crossbow during an archery season, you must also have a valid archery permit as well as a hunting license and a proper tag.

www.fishandgame.idaho.gov

800-554-8685

Illinois

Hunters 62 years of age and older are now permitted to use a crossbow without a special permit. Hunters using a crossbow will need an archery deer permit and proof of age in the form of an official ID. Crossbows used in hunting as authorized by a permit issued under this section shall meet all of the following specifications:

- 1) Shall have a minimum peak draw weight of 125 pounds and a maximum peak draw weight of 200 pounds.
- 2) Shall have a minimum limb width of 24 inches and a minimum overall length (from butt of stock to front of limbs) of 24 inches.
- 3) Shall have a working safety.
- 4) Shall be used with bolts or arrows of not less than 14 inches in length (not including point) with a broadhead. Broadheads may have fixed or expandable blades, but they must be barbless and have a minimum 7/8 inch diameter when fully opened. Broadheads with fixed blade must be metal or flint-, chert-, or obsidian-napped. Broadheads with expandable blades must be metal.

Crossbows also legal for handicapped hunters by permit.

www.dnr.state.il.us

217-782-7305

Indiana

Crossbows legal only in late archery season and only for antler less deer.

www.in.gov/dnr/fishwild/3188.htm

317-232-4080

Iowa

Crossbows legal for handicapped hunters with permit. Resident hunters 70 years old and older may purchase one statewide antlerless-deer only license to hunt deer with a crossbow.

www.iowadnr.com
515-281-8688

Kansas

Beginning in 2008 - Crossbows of at least 125 pounds draw weight will be allowed during the regular firearms deer and turkey seasons. Crossbows and draw locks legal for permanently disabled hunters by permit.

www.kdwp.state.ks.us
316-342-0658

Kentucky

Crossbows legal for all hunters during rifle and muzzleloader seasons. Legal in archery season for handicapped hunters. Crossbows legal for deer statewide October 1-19 and November 8-December 31, 2008.

*Proposed regulation for crossbow use for Elk - to be updated when dates published. www.kdfr.state.ky.us/
800-858-1549

Louisiana

The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Commission now has the ability to establish a bow and arrow only season, and a bow and arrow and crossbow season in special deer hunting seasons.

www.wlf.state.la.us/
225-765-2350

Maine

Effective January 1, 2006, with a valid crossbow hunting license, a person may hunt bear with a crossbow during the open season on bear and may hunt deer with a crossbow during the open firearm season on deer. The crossbow hunting license may not be used to hunt deer during the archery season, muzzle loading season, or expanded archery season. Crossbows are still permitted otherwise for disabled hunters. A person who applies for the crossbow hunting license, other than a junior hunting license, must submit proof of having successfully completing an archery hunting education course and a crossbow hunting course or evidence of having previously held adult archery and crossbow hunting licenses issued specifically for the purpose of hunting with a crossbow or bow and arrow in this State or any other state, province or country in any year after 1979. Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife

www.maine.gov/ifw/hunting_trapping/hunting/
207-287-8000

Maryland

Crossbows legal during the entire bow season in the Suburban Deer Archery Zone (Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Howard, Montgomery and Prince George's counties).

Age 65 and over legal throughout Archery season.

To be updated:

*Crossbows are legal for all hunters during the October 1- October 15, 2007 and January 15-31, 2008 segments of the Deer Bow Season and all regular gun seasons and muzzleloader seasons.

www.dnr.state.md.us/huntersguide
410-260-8540

Massachusetts

Crossbows for handicap with permit.

www.masswildlife.org
508-792-7270

Michigan

Crossbows legal for bucks only during firearm season and for handicapped hunters by permit during archery season.

www.michigan.gov/dnr
517-373-1263

Minnesota

Crossbows legal only for handicapped hunters by permit.

www.dnr.state.mn.us

888-minndnr

Mississippi

Crossbows legal for handicapped hunters with permit, hunters 65 and older, and during primitive weapon and deer gun seasons.

home.mdwfp.com

601-432-2400

Missouri

Crossbows for handicapped archers by permit and during firearms season.

www.mdc.mo.gov/hunt/

573-751-4115

Montana

Crossbows legal only during gun seasons. No provision for handicapped hunters.

www.fwp.state.mt.us

406-444-2535

Nebraska

Crossbows legal during deer and pronghorn firearms season and for handicapped hunters by permit during archery season.

www.ngpc.state.ne.us

402-471-0641

Nevada

Legal for all hunters in firearms season.

www.ndow.org/

775-688-1500

New Hampshire

Crossbows legal for handicapped hunters by permit. Legal for all hunters in firearms season. Legal for all hunters on Long Island with Long Island Deer Permit.

www.wildlife.state.nh.us

603-271-3422

New Jersey

Crossbows are prohibited, but a Bow Use Permit may be issued to disabled hunters who cannot use a conventional bow as described in the Game Code. This permit is issued only if the need is certified by a licensed and certified NJ physician.

www.nifishandwildlife.com

609-292-2965

New Mexico

Crossbow use is allowed by Certified Mobility Impaired Hunters during all hunts.

www.wildlife.state.nm.us

800-862-9310

New York
Crossbows illegal.
www.dec.ny.gov
518-402-8924

North Carolina

Crossbows legal only for handicapped hunters by permit.
www.ncgameandfish.com/hunting
919-733-7291

North Dakota

Crossbows legal for handicapped hunters by permit.
www.gf.nd.gov
701-328-6300

Ohio

Crossbows legal during archery season; Draw weight must not be less than 75 pounds and no more than 200 pounds.
www.ohiodnr.com/wildlife/default.htm
614-265-6300

Oklahoma

Crossbows legal for age 60 and over.
Crossbows legal for handicapped hunters by permit. Hunters with a permanent disability which prevents use of a conventional bow with a physician's certification. Crossbow must be a minimum draw weight of 100 pounds and equipped with safety devices. Crossbows may not be transported in a motorized vehicle unless uncocked or disassembled.
www.wildlifedepartment.com
405-521-2730

Oregon

Crossbows illegal.
www.dfw.state.or.us
503-872-5268

Pennsylvania

Crossbows legal statewide in archery season for disabled and temporarily disabled hunters by permit. Legal for all hunters statewide for bear and elk and during any of the firearms deer seasons, including the regular two-week concurrent deer season, the early muzzleloader season and the late flintlock season. In addition, in Wildlife Management Units (WMU's) 2B, 5C, & 5D - the most urbanized areas of the state - crossbows are legal during any established deer season.
www.pgc.state.pa.us
717-787-4250

Rhode Island

Crossbows only legal for hunters who possess an official Adaptive Aid/Crossbow Permit obtained through the DEM Division of Licensing. Crossbows must be a minimum draw weight of 150-pounds and 24-inches wide.
www.dem.ri.gov/pubs/regs/index.htm
401-222-6647

South Carolina

Archery equipment is now defined as " a bow and arrow, a long bow, a recurve bow, a compound bow, or a cross bow."
www.dnr.state.sc.us

803-734-3886

South Dakota

Crossbows legal for handicapped hunters during archery season.

www.sdgfp.info/index.htm

605-773-3485

Tennessee

The use of crossbows is now permitted during all seasons including the regular archery season.

www.state.tn.us/twra

615-781-6500

Texas

Crossbows legal during General Season with minimum draw weight of 125 pounds, a mechanical safety and a stock that is 25 inches or longer.

www.tpwd.state.tx.us

512-389-45055

Utah

Crossbows legal only for handicapped hunters by permit.

www.wildlife.utah.gov

801-538-4700

Vermont

Crossbows legal only for handicapped hunters by permit.

www.vtfishandwildlife.com

802-241-3700

Virginia

At the June 23, 2005, meeting of the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries the Board approved the use of crossbows for hunting during the upcoming fall hunting season. Previously, only disabled hunters could hunt with crossbows. For more specific crossbow information click on the following link:

www.dgif.state.va.us/hunting/crossbow.aspwww.dgif.virginia.gov/hunting/regulations/

804-367-1000

Washington

Crossbows approved (effective 5/5/04) for use by qualifying archers with disabilities.

<http://wdfw.wa.gov>

360-902-2519

West Virginia

Crossbows legal with a Class Y Crossbow Permit for individuals who have been determined to have a permanent physical impairment which renders them so disabled as to be unable to use a conventional bow and arrow device. An application must be completed and submitted by the hunter and a licensed Physician to the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources for consideration.

www.wvdnr.gov

304-558-2771

Wisconsin

Crossbows are not legal to use except by disabled hunters issued a Class A, B, or Crossbow permit; resident hunters 65 years of age or older issued a

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2/14/2009

TO: Rep. Franke Wilmer

FROM: David Helmers

Franke, Attached is the petition
I wrote to you about.

THANKS AGAIN



Dear Members of the FWP Committee/ Montana Legislature,

We, the voters of Montana would appreciate your support of HB 434 as submitted by Rep. Franke Wilmer. This Bill will allow PERMANENTLY DISABLED hunters to hunt with a crossbow during the general archery season. Thank you for your support.

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